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THE BULK AND COST OF BOOKS FOR THE BLIND

(See pages 35, 41 and 43)



Published monthly by the American Bible Society, Bible House, Astor Place, New York  
Entered as second-class matter December 3, 1923, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Sec. 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized on December 3, 1923.

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# BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD

VOLUME 72

MARCH, 1927

NUMBER 3

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## The Stories in Some Letters

By Lewis Birge Chamberlain

*Our Society has the honorable and unique distinction of serving the blind for over ninety years. This phase of its work has not been set forth in these columns for some years. For two reasons, mentioned more fully hereafter, special occasion has arisen for emphasizing it now—a fresh need for the financial support of our work for the blind and an opportunity to announce that plans are developing for the supply of general religious literature for the blind by a new organization.*

THE blind are not very articulate. Sensitive, silent and retiring; modest and grateful; worthy and often needy; self-restrained and self-helping; the great majority shrink from placing themselves or their needs before the public. That they may, in a measure, speak for themselves, a score of letters is here presented.

Few, if indeed any, can read these recently received letters without being stirred. Through them, and the stories involved in them, are revealed something of the handicaps, needs, and characteristics of the blind, which will command sympathy and admiration. These few letters are but samples, easily duplicated, from the hundreds which reach the American Bible Society. Each letter has been chosen to emphasize or illustrate a different fact or feature. The reader will miss some of their significance if he does not notice how well scattered over our great country the blind must be, and how many of the letters were written by the blind themselves. Such letters are marked by an asterisk (\*).

### Blindness May Befall Anyone and Suddenly

The effect of this article will be deepened, if each reader will pause to apply this thought personally. Blindness sometimes comes slowly. Sometimes, and not only as the

result of an accident, it comes unexpectedly and suddenly. It is in adult life that blindness has come to most of those so terribly handicapped. Christian workers, professional men and women, laborers, mothers in their homes,—blindness takes toll from all,—sometimes in the heyday of life and sometimes as gray hairs are multiplying.

St. Louis, Mo.

\* I received the Book of Psalms and the Gospels of St. Luke and St. John in Braille. I wish to thank you for them. I surely appreciate them very much, as it is the first time I have read the Bible in two years, having lost my sight. I have used many of your small New Testaments in Sunday-school work and little thought at the time I would some day have to read the Bible in Braille.

Waitsburg, Washington.

\* Now as to other volumes of the Scriptures I have been getting along very contentedly with the nineteen volumes you have so kindly sent me, all the New Testament and the Psalms, Proverbs and Job. I have at times thought that I would like to read the prophecy of Isaiah again,

but hesitate to ask for it; but if I have another volume, would prefer to have one containing Isaiah. I have read the New Testament entirely through twice with my fingers, and expect to finish the Psalms the second time this evening. I have read Job twice and Proverbs once. I cannot tell you what a comfort these Scriptures have been to me during the past two years and more, and especially since my wife passed away a year and a half ago. I get other Moon type books from the libraries, but the Scriptures are here to stay, and I can always fall back on them; and after all the Bible is best of all.

I do not feel hardly that I ought to ask the Bible Society to send me any more, but will leave it to you;



A Methodist minister, after a generation in the pastorate, at seventy years of age, cut off by blindness and forced to a very humble home. A colporteur of the Bible Society found him in the mountains of Tennessee, and introduced him to Braille. Now he has comfort and joy in again reading his beloved Bible in Braille. The volume in his lap and those on the chair make only the New Testament volumes.



only saying that, if you send more, let it be a volume containing Isaiah. My daughter has been fully instructed to return all these Scriptures to the Bible Society when I have passed away.

Back of this last letter lies a story. Three years ago it came to the Bible House. A home missionary, who had spent several decades of strenuous work in the Rocky Mountain regions, awoke one morning blind. Courageously, he then undertook to learn to read Braille. His hardened fingers could not read the Braille points. For ten years, he was dependent on others for all his reading. Then he heard of the Moon, or modified raised letter system, and wrote in eager hope to the American Bible Society for a volume of Scriptures in Moon. What pæans of praise and letters of gratitude came as he found he could again have at his hand portions of Scripture for his own devotional reading. Gradually, he is being supplied with the whole Bible. But, as a single Moon Bible costs \$250, it has had to be supplied gradually. His letter is typical of the gratitude of the blind and their patience over a limitation in responses to their requests. His eagerness not to draw heavily on the Bible Society, and his care that the precious books he has shall not lie idle when he can use them no longer, are also, though not so frequently, characteristic of the blind.

Indianapolis, Ind.

The party for whom I am ordering this would appreciate more volumes, and, while not really in destitute circumstances, has not the money for them; is a woman seventy years old; had always been a worker in church and Sunday school; has been sightless about two years, but very courageously took up the study of Braille. Through the Red Cross I have taken up the transcribing of Braille and prepare her Sunday-school lesson each week; but the Bible would be so helpful for references.

This letter shows that one over seventy years of age has learned the Braille. It also shows how those who see can help those who do not.

### Extra Handicaps

The three letters hereunder all came in the same mail. What a tale each tells! Blindness itself is the greatest of physical handicaps. It also entails other handicaps, e.g., the cost and size of embossed books. But, strangely and sadly enough, those afflicted with blindness are sometimes under other heavy handicaps. What marvels of grit and grace are revealed in the story back of this letter from Australia:

Windsor, Victoria, Australia.

Enclosed please find draft for £15, our contribution for this year to your Society. I hope we shall be able to continue sending it; but you know that our president, Mr. Byers, died last March, so you will understand that, owing to peculiar circumstances surrounding his work, there may be difficulty in keeping all the subscribers to the mission together.

The story of Mr. Byers was in the April, 1922, issue of the BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD. Briefly told, he was paralyzed for thirty-three years, and blind for twenty-five years. He was so paralyzed that every joint in his body was immovable; his jaw so locked that his front teeth had to be removed to insert the spout of a feeding cup. A body as stiff as a log of wood, but his mind full of vigor, and his heart full of the grace of service; and so it was that he initiated and directed, through helpful friends, a "Mission to the Blind in Heathen Lands," with an annual income that rose to £400 a year. From it, he has been sending help to our Society for its work among the blind in Asia. This letter brought the last check.

### BLIND PEDRO

Happy in his Christian faith, and in a memory stored with Scripture passages, despite the double handicap of blindness and leprosy.



To those concerning whom the next letters tell the Scriptures desired have been sent, as has been the case with all mentioned in all the letters in this article. But do not fail to read between the lines the evidence of patience and courage and good cheer that face such additional afflictions.

Baltimore, Md.

There is a young blind boy in whom I am interested. He is only thirteen years old, but very intelligent. He has not been in school for the past four years, as his bones are very brittle, and one leg has been broken five times in four years. He can now just get around the house on crutches, with someone walking beside him. He is a very intelligent reader and would like to have the Bible as his own.

Washington, D. C.

\* I am blind and helpless. Have been in bed for thirteen (13) years. I am absolutely rigid from the top of my head to the soles of my feet. But I can move my hands up to about a right angle, and the arms outward and inward about fifteen degrees with some difficulty. Of course, I haven't much strength after lying in bed for so many years, and my position down flat, just like a board, makes it very hard for me to handle books of much weight. I depend principally on magazines for my reading. I have a friend who wants to give me the New Testament in Braille, but we seem to be unable to get it in small volumes. The Bible seems to be printed in heavy volumes. I can't handle a book that weighs over two (2) pounds. Can the New Testament be purchased in volumes not exceeding two (2) pounds in weight? If not, could one be bound in volumes that size? If so, what would be the cost?

Volumes specially made in the lighter weight were sent and this acknowledgment came:



\* I received the books of the New Testament that you sent me, and I am very much pleased with them. I can handle that size volume all right. I certainly enjoy them immensely. It is such a treat to be able to read the Bible once more.

### Gratitude

Gratitude and appreciation breathe through practically all letters from the blind. Limited as may be our response to some requests for reasons mentioned on page 42, the gratitude of the blind is never curtailed. It adds much joy to the service for them.

Parkville, Maryland.

\* Just received my books, the Gospels of Matthew and Mark, and want to thank you for your kindness. Rest assured I will enjoy reading them. I now have the four Gospels, and feel I am rich in possessing them as my own. We blind folks ought to be so thankful that a way is provided for us to read.

Please to excuse writing in pencil and all mistakes, as I am writing this myself.

Fillmore, California.

\* I have received my set of the Bible in Revised Braille, which I prize very highly, and I appreciate what you have done, in making such a reduction as to make it possible for us blind people to have the Bible, so we can read anything at any time we wish for ourselves. Thanking you for all you have done for us, and praying God's blessing on you, I am

### The Young Blind

All the blind are not adults, nor do only adults want the Scriptures. The first letter following is from a boy, the other from a girl.

South Boston, Mass.

\* A few years ago, I heard a missionary reading the Bible to some children. Ever since that day I was wishing to have one of those books, so I could study about the life of our Saviour; but I was unable to buy it. You have certainly done a favor for me by sending to me that part of the Bible I wanted.

Riverside, Calif.

\* I am the blind girl to whom you sent the Bible, and I am writing this little note to thank you. It is very sweet and wonderful of you to give me this lovely Bible. I want you to know that I am glad you chose the part you sent, because the Book of St. John is my favorite book. I surely thank you, and I only pray that you will be permitted to continue in this lovely work a long time. I feel that you are doing more good for the dear Lord and Master than many of the other workers. I hope some time to be able to return a part of the wonderful gift you have given me, in doing some thing for you. I assure you that I enjoy very much the Bible that you sent. I think it is the very nicest present I could receive this Christmas.

### Revised Braille Is Not Yet Universal

The plan and effort to scrap other embossed systems and make Revised Braille the universally used system in America, have back of them some great gains for the blind.

But this entails great hardship for all who are using, and know only, other embossed systems. One of them, the New York Point, was the most widely used in America when Revised

Braille was introduced, and has the advantage of the least bulk and cost of all the systems. The case of the home missionary (Letter 2), who went ten years without being able to read his Bible because he could not decipher the Braille alphabet, has been duplicated by many who can read only the larger and more legible Moon alphabet. American Braille, Line Letter, and English Braille still have their users.

Ironton, Ohio.

\* I want to know how much the ninth volume of the New Testament of the New York Point Print is. My address is —; write back just as soon as you get this, for I want to buy one. I can't read the Braille.



READING THE BIBLE IN MOON AT NINETY-FIVE  
The old lady lost her sight by the San Francisco earthquake, and at ninety was taught by Miss Foley, herself blind.

Fort Collins, Colo.

\* I, for one, surely thank the American Bible Society and the Society for Providing Religious Literature for publishing books for us. We have so little really good literature at our command, that is out and out for Christ and his atoning work, that we do most heartily appreciate a little book like the one I have just received in New York Point.

We do miss Mr. Wait, and shall always remember the great work he did for us. Many of us, though we are gradually becoming accustomed to reading Braille, do not like it, and see no reason for its adoption; hence one of my reasons for ordering the hymn book. The Point takes up so much less room, and seems much more intelligible than the Braille, but it surely looks as if the Braille is really here to stay; so we shall just have to put up with it with the best grace possible.

Norfolk, Virginia.

\* I am writing you for a little information in regard of the original American Braille type Bibles; that is,



I would like to know if you handle the said type. If not, could you inform me where I may obtain it?

### Publicity Needed

The Bible is, and has been available, in all systems used in the United States, from the time each was put into service, beginning with Line Letter over ninety years ago. In this respect, the American Bible Society, as a representative of the Protestant forces of America, has been a leader in service to the blind. And yet it is distressing to be receiving, every year, letters showing that blind persons are still so shut in by their blindness, and so uninformed by their friends who see, that they have been for years without the comfort and help of the Scriptures. Will not those who read this article think over the blind whom they know or see, and make sure that they know that the Scriptures are available in all embossed systems for the blind, and where they may be obtained? Mr. Walter G. Holmes, in the January issue of the *Matilda Ziegler Magazine* for the blind, of which he is editor, told his readers that a volume of the Bible could be had by application to the American Bible Society, and over one hundred applications have been received, already, the great majority from those of whom nothing had been heard previously at the Bible House.

Martville, N. Y.

\* I received the Vol. I containing the Books Genesis and Exodus, which you so kindly sent me, and I am very grateful for it. I have so often wished for a New York Point Bible, but never expected to possess any part of one, and now thanks to your generosity, and that of Mr. Holmes, I have these six books!

### The Blind Help the Blind

Among those who are devoting their lives and abilities to teaching their fellow blind to read are Mr. Lattimer, in Pennsylvania, Miss Hayes, in New Jersey, Miss Johnson, in Illinois, and Miss Foley, in California.

Mr. W. A. Hadley, who had been a principal of public schools in Chicago and elsewhere for twenty years before he became blind, has established a correspondence school in Chicago for instruction of the blind in general and special subjects and has over 400 pupils. Mr. J. R. Atkinson, who lost his eyesight as an adult, has established the Universal Braille Press at Los Angeles; and Mr. Irwin is the director of the research department of the American Foundation for the Blind, and a leader in work for his fellow blind; and the list could be lengthened.

The writer of the next letter is himself blind.

Minneapolis, Minn.

I have often thought that it is too bad that more of our churches do not assist in getting out more litera-

ture for the blind. Do you have any book in mind at the present time, that you would like to see put into Revised Braille? If you have some religious book in mind, and would give me an idea about what it would cost to put it into Revised Braille, I will try and interest some church or some church society to furnish the necessary funds. It seems to me that some small book on the Life of Christ by a Protestant author would be very fine.

I am in public entertainment work. I am closely in touch with ministers and church people and feel quite sure that I might be able to get several different churches interested in this; but it would be easier if I had some definite book and the cost to work on. I am interested in the Lutheran and other Protestant churches. Thank you for your always kind spirit.

### Suggestions to the Sighted

Such a spirit as revealed above is surely a challenge to those of us not hampered by blindness. There are many ways in which help can be given, some shown by the remaining letters.

Roswell, New Mexico.

I have been teaching a blind lady to read the Revised Braille Grade 1½. She is so anxious to read God's word.

I was told you furnish the Bible free to those that cannot buy it. This lady is in very poor circumstances. That is the thing that is bothering her the most—that she has to be provided for by charity. She is anxious to learn to do something to support herself. She needs God's Word to help her to become reconciled.

This state, as yet, does not have any way of helping the adult blind, as far as I have been able to learn. I am a stranger here, with a sick husband; so am doing what I can for others.

Providence, R. I.

In reference to your notice in this month's issue of the *Matilda Ziegler Magazine* for the blind, to the effect that you will donate a copy of one book of the Bible to any one unable to purchase it, I am writing to ask if you would kindly send a copy to Mrs. —. She lost her sight entirely and very suddenly about nine years ago. She lives with her invalid husband and one daughter, who is barely able to support her parents. If there is any postage to be paid, I would be very glad to pay it to you, if you will let me know the amount by returning the enclosed post card.

Scarsdale, N. Y.

I have been reading with much interest the little BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD, sent me recently, and my sympathies go out especially to the blind. I desire to send my mite toward procuring for them the blessed Word of God, which has been my stay and comfort for nearly eighty-four years. Find check for \$10.

This impulse to contribute toward making the Scriptures available for the blind is one that we know many will share. It will take many gifts to bring these expensive volumes even within the reach of the blind who gladly, when able, pay the dollar-a-volume price. And it will take more gifts to enable the Society to present, to those unable to purchase, Bibles which cost from \$47 to \$250 each, according to the embossed system used. Please let gifts for this gracious service to the blind be generous, but *not* at the expense of other work the Society is endeavoring to carry on at home and abroad.



# The Power of Bible Texts in Public Places

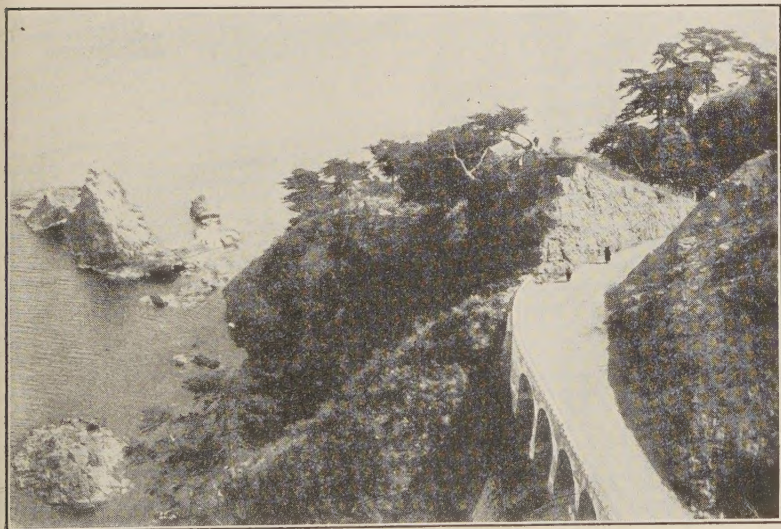
By the Rev. Karl E. Aurell, Secretary, Japan Agency

**A**BOUT sixty-six miles by railway southwest from Tokyo, on a rather large inlet of the ocean, the famous town of Atami is located. It is widely known for its natural hot water springs, or baths, the year round, for its very mild winter weather, and for its beautiful scenery. Atami also became famous through a very popular love story full of tragedy, of the Meiji era. In memory of the writer of that novel, and perhaps, also, of the novel itself, a monument under a beautiful pine tree

steamers running between Tokyo and Atami. Those boats usually left Tokyo about eight o'clock in the evening, and, as they reached a certain point near Atami, about two o'clock next morning, men or women would jump overboard and drown themselves. Officers on those boats therefore had to take turns watching on deck to prevent such deeds from happening. However, since Ma-no-fuchi became popular for suicidal performances, plunging into the ocean from those boats has practically ceased.

It is calculated that on an average every year about forty suicides are committed at Atami.

In the beginning priests of the Nichiren sect of the Buddhists, observing this sad phenomenon, erected a sort of monument on a prominent point of this famous highway, high above the ocean shore. This monument, consisting of a long wooden slab, or tablet, usually set up at the graves in cemeteries, is supposed to have some virtue of consolation for the souls of the dead. No doubt the priests hoped that, in this case, it would prevent some from carrying out decisions of ending their lives. Other



THE HIGHWAY FROM ATAMI TO ITO

on the beach has been constructed, and large numbers of people yet in the age of romance are attracted there to see it. Besides that, all sorts of people go there to spend week-ends, some whole weeks or months on vacation, because of the attractive peculiarities of the place. From Atami, on the side of the mountains which stand up immediately out of the ocean a highway has been cut out,—a distance of about fifteen miles,—which leads to another well-known natural hot-water-bath town, called Ito.

Along this highway, on the border of Atami facing the ocean, is a particularly noted place called "Ma-no-fuchi" (the devil's gulf), where many poor sinners have put an end to their lives by hurling themselves into the deep and restless waters of the ocean.

Some years previous to this period of time many had cast themselves into the ocean from

thoughts, no doubt, also were back of it. But apparently when despondent men and women came along and saw that gloomy looking tablet, thoughts of the trials, failures and transitoriness of life were intensified, goading them on to a speedier perpetration of that for which they had come. "Here," they felt, "there is somebody who will bring flowers and burn incense if I die"; and at once they would wend their way down the craggy and steep slope from the highway to the deep ocean waters below, and cast themselves away.

The police at Atami became alarmed over the rapid increase of suicides and arrived at the conclusion that the contrivance of the Buddhist priests, rather than discouraging, decidedly encouraged them. That tablet was not only useless, but absolutely dangerous; and so it was ordered to be removed.



At this time, a venerable earnest Christian worker—Mr. Doi—in Atami went to the police and asked for permission to write, or print, in large script, Bible passages on the massive, dusky-colored, stony mountain wall on the inside of the highway, just above the Ma-no-fuchi. It was granted. At once, with white paint and a brush, Mr. Doi had the pleasure of causing that wall, silently but most impressively, to speak out the wonderful words of the Saviour: "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."—Matt. 11:28. They were preceded by the words: "Chotto mate, omoinaose!" the meaning of which is, "*Wait a bit—Reflect!*" They are followed by the address of the church at Atami.

The Buddhist priests did not like this "a little bit," and pleaded with the police that those words should be ordered obliterated. But the police ignored their request. Those precious words are still there, read by hundreds of



MR. DOI AND HIS BIBLE TEXTS

people every day. Not only at that point, but at three other places along that highway, Mr. Doi made the walls speak different significant passages of God's Book.

The result is that a half a dozen men and women seeing those passages have heard God speak and, instead of hurling themselves into the boisterous waters of the ocean below, went into the town of Atami and called at the Christian church, where Mr. and Mrs. Doi gave them hearty welcome. They were most sympathetically dealt with and led to an experimental knowledge of salvation by faith in Christ as a personal Saviour and Lord of their lives. They have returned to their respective homes, praising God for both physical and spiritual salvation. The police and many others of Atami are greatly impressed with the power of the Word of God, and Mr. and Mrs. Doi, with their little group of believers, are praising God for the victory of his Word over the power

of darkness! Two of our dear colporteurs, while canvassing Atami selling portions one evening, had the privilege and joy of dealing with one of the above-mentioned six, leading her to the Lord. And only yesterday one of those two workers mentioned in a report to us that, in speaking on the "Victory of God's Word at Atami" at a service, thirty-four people at once decided they wanted to be Christians.

On the 12th of March, as a prayer meeting at the Atami church was closing, a young man about twenty-four years of age was found at the entrance asking that he might see the minister—which, of course, was gladly granted. The gist of what he told Mr. Doi is as follows:

He was a silk merchant. He had met with reversals in business, and finally utterly failed. Recently he had even spent much of his superior's money, and, in order to avoid meeting him again, he decided to go to Atami and commit suicide. As he wandered on and on upon that mountainside road, high above the sea below, about seven o'clock in the evening he stopped at a certain point and said to himself, "Here I will die!" Having thrown his belongings first into the yawning chasm at his feet, he was on the point of hurling himself after them, when suddenly he thought he heard the sound of footfalls and waited a bit. Then again the fatal plunge was to be taken, and the same imagined sound of footfalls arrested him. That hesitation somehow made him reflect; and at once the Bible verses, and a hymn he had seen on the mountain wall, flashed before his mind's eye. The words "Return, ye wanderers, return" especially gripped him, and he was overcome with unutterable abashment. The desire to die passed away, and almost before he was aware of it he found himself searching for the Atami church.

After having been earnestly dealt with by Mr. Doi, he realized what erroneous ideas of life he had had, and sincerely repented of his sins. Borrowing money from a friend who lived in Atami, he returned to his home, where, spending very happy days, he wrote Mr. Doi:

I want to thank you ever so much for the kindness shown me that night. I owe my safe home returning to you. On the train homeward everything seemed new to me, and my heart was full of joy. Christ's love for me seemed so wonderful. By your kind and earnest instruction I learned to know him, and by him my hardened heart has been entirely changed. I shall never forget your guidance. By it I was saved from death and ushered into the true life. Thank you ever so much!

That night on that high mountain road along the sea below seems to me now as a bad dream. It is entirely due to you that I am not in the other world at this time. I am now enjoying a quiet home life in a community of warm friends, and am looking forward to quite a different and better way of living from that of past years.



# Our Society and the Blind

THERE are about 100,000 blind persons in the United States according to the best information. Ninety per cent become blind during adult life. Blindness among children is decreasing, as a result of improved attention and methods. Blindness among adults continues in proportion to the increase in population, through accidents, disease, and the wearing out of eyes.

Literacy is increasing both among children and adults, particularly through increasing pro-

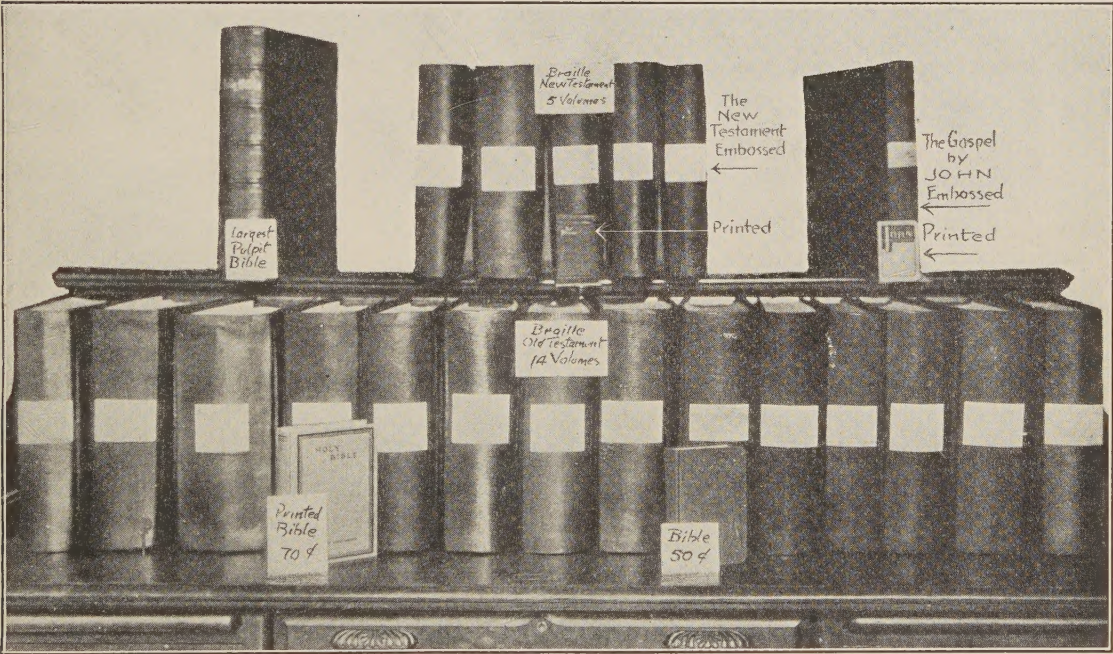
issued the following number of volumes in each of the systems used in America :

Line Letter .....	27,213
New York Point .....	25,176
American Braille .....	6,384
Revised Braille .....	4,623
Moon .....	6,258
English Braille .....	841
Foreign Languages .....	16*

\*Figures for last two years only.

70,511

Records at hand show the following annual



## COMPARATIVE SIZES AND COSTS OF PRINTED AND EMBOSSED SCRIPTURES

The Old Testament (American Braille) fills a 5-foot office desk. Cost price \$122.  
The New Testament (American Braille) makes the 5 volumes on the center top. Cost price \$35.  
The handsome pulpit Bible in beautiful morocco, at the upper left, costs only \$28. The Braille Bible, cost price, is \$157.  
Compare the size of whole printed Bibles, 50 cents, and 70 cents, standing before the Braille Old Testament.  
Compare the size and price of the printed New Testament, 27 cents, standing in front of the Braille New Testament.  
Compare the Gospels of John at the right, embossed \$4, printed, 1 cent.  
And the embossed Bible is practically the whole religious library of the blind.

vision for their instruction by public funds and private effort.

General literature for the blind, and facilities for reading, also are increasing; here again through both government and private aid.

There is at present an appreciable development of thought for, and attention to, the blind. The blind also are learning more widely of the facilities available, and developing the habit of reading.

### What Has Been Done

Since the Society started its work for the blind in 1835, up to January 1, 1927, it has

circulation in the last ten years from the Bible House in New York. Other volumes have been circulated abroad.

1,653	volumes in 1917	2,315	volumes in 1922
1,062	" " 1918	2,886	" " 1923
2,129	" " 1919	1,929	" " 1924
2,177	" " 1920	1,918	" " 1925
1,510	" " 1921	3,182	" " 1926

The unusual numbers in the years 1922 (2,315) and 1923 (2,886) are the result of the very large circulation of the "Small Volume of Scripture Passages" then first issued by our Society. This little book has had the largest circulation, probably, of any volume ever pub-



lished for the blind; totalling 2,001 on December 31, 1926. An edition of embossed volumes is generally less than 100 and practically never over 300. This volume, sold at 50 cents, has been a great boon to the blind and greatly appreciated by them.

### An Expensive Work

The circulation in 1926 (3,182) is the largest in any year of the Society, so far as records are available. This would seem to be the result, in part, of the blind more widely learning of the one dollar-a-volume price generally set by the Bible Society for its embossed volumes, and, in part, to groups of people and friends of the blind taking advantage of this price to purchase whole Bibles for blind individuals. For example, one such organization came into the field this past year and purchased some twenty-five Bibles or 525 volumes for such distribution. This cost that society, at the dollar-a-volume price, \$525. But it cost our Society over \$1500—the difference between the dollar-a-volume price and the cost price.

During 1926, less than 400 of the 3,000 embossed volumes issued were donated in full. The blind and their friends paid a part of the cost toward a larger proportion of the volumes supplied than in previous years.

However, since the cost price of the volumes runs from \$3 to \$8, the increased distribution of the embossed volumes at the \$1 price means an increased charge on the funds of the Society.

And once again, over against this fact, it is to be remembered that the blind, in paying the dollar-a-volume price, are paying \$11 for the cheapest embossed Bible, as contrasted with the 50 cents which those who see pay for a cheap printed Bible. A single Bible in Revised Braille, the system which is now being urged for uniform use, costs the blind \$21, at the dollar-a-volume price.

### Limitations

The Society is working on a budget. This limits the expenditure on any one line to the amount appropriated. The work among the blind shares in this limitation. The embossed Bibles in the various systems are very expensive. Naming them in the order which they were most used in 1926, the present cost prices are:

Revised Braille ....	\$80	American Braille...	\$157
New York Point...	60	English Braille ....	47
Moon .....	250	Line Letter .....	51

Obviously, the donation, in full or at the dollar-a-volume price, of one or two hundred such expensive Bibles would exhaust a considerable appropriation. In order that not one of the blind who desire volumes of the Scripture should be disappointed, it has been the

practice, for several years, to limit donations to a single person to two or three volumes each half year. In this way, none has been refused.

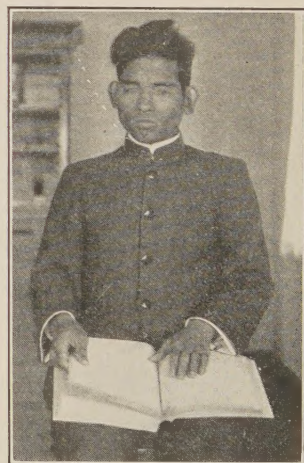
The unusual increase in 1926 in the number of books purchased at the dollar-a-volume price did overrun the appropriation for that year. This has made it advisable to put a limitation likewise on the number of volumes that may be so purchased, for or by a single individual, each half year. Exceptions are made in favor of ministers and Christian workers who use the volumes to instruct others. The limitation in some cases brings real disappointment. But the blind are so appreciative of what is done that complaints do not come back in consequence of these disappointments.

### Resources

For this work, the Society has been dependent chiefly on two sources: first, that from

OUR  
SOCIETY  
SERVES  
THE  
BLIND  
ABROAD

Mr. Akimoto,  
himself blind,  
who helped  
make and pay  
for the  
Bible in  
Japanese Braille  
—the first  
embossed Bible  
in Asia.



special funds for this work; and, second, generous aid from the Society for Providing Evangelical Religious Literature for the Blind. A third, but hitherto rather inconsiderable source, has been donations from individuals.

The chief special fund is a bequest by Mr. Burr, a Chicago business man, who once saw two blind scholars in a Sunday school reading their lesson from one of our embossed books, and was so touched that he gave \$40,000 to carry on this work. The Society for Providing Evangelical Religious Literature, organized in 1874, has rendered very real and considerable service to the blind in the supply of general religious books and Sunday-school quarterlies. It found the religious book most in demand by the blind was the Bible, and has, for many years, contributed to the Bible Society for the distribution of the Scriptures, while at the same time carrying on its other work mentioned. Various causes left the society without sufficient funds to carry on actively its



own specific work. In 1921 its then board of managers felt that the largest service that the society could continue to render would be to help in the supply of embossed Scriptures, and with this understanding this work, and the charge of the society, passed over to a new board of managers. During the six years that have elapsed, the American Bible Society has received very material financial aid as a result, amounting to an average of between \$3,000 and \$4,000 a year.

With 1927, a new arrangement has been made. The Society for Providing Evangelical Religious Literature for the Blind has turned over its list of contributors to the American Bible Society with the request that the Bible Society make its own approach to these contributors for its special work among the blind, the former society, of course, discontinuing such appeals. It is hoped and expected that this will result in an increased service to those so worthy, so hampered and so appreciative.

• • •

# General Religious Literature for the Blind

THERE is practically no general religious literature in Revised Braille. What little is available is of a denominational or individualistic character. There is no Concordance; no Bible dictionary; no Life of Christ; no Bible textbook. The Protestant forces of the United States, in this respect, have neglected their fellow Protestants who are blind.

And there is hunger for general religious literature as well as for the Scriptures, as indicated by the three letters below, which are

These two fine-looking young men lost all their clothes and books when a fire destroyed the dormitory of their theological seminary. They are pictured with the complete Bibles given them by our Society after the fire—Braille for the one at the left, New York Point for the other.



Lives devoted to the gospel ministry despite the drawback of blindness, and the further drawback that the Bible is the only religious book of any consequence available for their personal use. No Concordance; no Bible dictionary; no Life of Christ; no commentary!

taken simply as samples and from many received.

Worcester, Mass.

\* One thing I should gladly welcome in Braille is a good Sunday-school lesson quarterly, one on the same lines as the old New York Point one of several years ago was. Seems to me that now there is a universal Braille among the entire English-speaking blind, it would be a good thing for all the world and over if such a quarterly were to be gotten up. I am a home department member of the Sunday school. As the lessons are in the Old Testament, just

now I am not trying to take them up; but when they go back into the New Testament, I hope they may be in some part of what I now have that I can easily read.

Birch Tree, Mo.

\* Do you have a Bible commentary or Bible dictionary to send in place of a book of the Bible, as I have neither and can hear my Bible in ink print read to me until I get a Bible in Braille? However, any book will certainly be appreciated and studied diligently.

Toronto, Ont., Canada.

\* I have been wondering if it would ever be possible for your Society to publish for the blind even enough

copies for their circulating libraries, of the book entitled "Kept for the Master's Use," written by Miss Frances R. Havergal. I have heard the first chapter of it read this last summer; and I thought it would be a very helpful book for those who are much or deeply interested in spiritual things and a really Christian life. I think, too, that if the book could be published in Revised Braille, Grade 1½, and was not more than two or three dollars in price, or even a little more, that a number of private individuals would be glad to have a copy. I am only writing this in the way of a suggestion.

The chief reason for the nonsupply of religious literature for the blind is the tremendous cost of embossed literature on the one hand, and the limited number of blind persons con-

\*Letters written by the blind themselves, with pencil or typewriter.  
†The ideal of the friends of Revised Braille, but still far from realization.—[Ed.]



nected with particular denominations on the other hand. One blind person was so eager and insistent about a Concordance, that he was not satisfied with the statement that the expense of embossing such a book was prohibitive, so far as available resources were concerned. To satisfy him, a little Concordance in ink print, which the Bible Society supplies for only 13 cents when bound in with the Bible, and sells separately in its own cover for 35 cents, was forwarded to the embossers for an estimate. The estimate came back with a statement that, to put this little ink print volume into embossed form, would require ten large embossed volumes, and an edition of 500 would cost \$17,000!

Happily, it may be announced that plans are under way now for the supply of embossed

religious books, periodicals, and Sunday-school quarterlies. The American Bible Society has a specific duty of supplying the Scriptures without note or comment, and cannot depart from this limited field, even for the blind. But its long service for the blind, and the knowledge of conditions and needs thus brought to its officers, have enabled them to participate in stimulating a somewhat adequate effort on the part of the Protestant forces of this country for the supply of this much-needed material. It involves, and has already received, the endorsement of some organizations representing most widely the Protestant forces of this country. The problem of financing the work proposed is the next step. Further announcement will be sent out to the blind and the friends of the blind when possible.

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## The Secretary of the Upper Andes Agency

THE Rev. Robert H. Milligan, D.D., missionary, pastor, writer and lecturer, has been appointed Agency Secretary of the Upper Andes Agency of the American Bible Society by the Board of Managers to fill the vacancy caused by the death, last August, of the Rev. W. F. Jordan. His headquarters will be on the west coast of South America.



REV. ROBERT H. MILLIGAN, D.D.

Dr. Milligan leaves the pastorate of the First Presbyterian Church of Mount Kisco, New York, where he has been preaching for the last three years. Dr. Milligan was born in Toronto and is a graduate of the Manitoba College, Winnipeg. He spent two years in the Theological Seminary at Princeton, N. J., and graduated in 1892, after one year's additional work, from the McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago.

In 1893 he went to Africa under the Foreign Mission Board of the Presbyterian Church in

the U. S. A. where he was associated with Dr. A. C. Good, who first reduced the Bulu language to writing and started the translation of the Bulu Bible. Dr. Milligan was located among the Bulu tribes at Efulen. He worked in parts of the country where, many times, he was the first white man the natives had ever seen.

They were usually greatly alarmed at his appearance. He was, to their childish minds, the spirit of a departed relative. Even Dr. Milligan's outstretched arm with an invitation to touch and test its reality was refused. To reach for an object and find it but empty air? Ah no!

Dr. Milligan later returned to the French Congo along the Gaboon, where he was engaged in both evangelistic and educational work. His activities were principally in the interior. An interested friend in America donated a launch which Dr. Milligan found invaluable in reaching people, who would otherwise have been inaccessible. For five years the *Dorothy* traveled the waterways, even venturing out on the great Atlantic.

While working in the Gaboon district, Dr. Milligan reduced a part of the Fang language to writing and translated the catechism and a hymn book. These translations are still in use.

He returned to America in 1904. Since then Dr. Milligan has held pastorates in Wilkes-Barre, Tacoma, and Portland. He has lectured widely on Africa. Among his publications are "The Jungle Folk of Africa" and "Fetish Folk of West Africa."

The field in which Dr. Milligan will work comprises the southern part of Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia. The Upper Andes



Agency of the American Bible Society covers an area of about a million and a half square miles and contains a population of over eleven million people. It was organized in 1920 with the late Mr. Jordan as Secretary. He regarded the evangelization of the millions of Indians in Spanish-speaking America as one of the most important tasks before the American Bible Society.

The first year in which the Agency was estab-

lished 14,257 copies of the Scriptures were distributed. In six years the circulation has more than trebled. The report for 1926, just received, gives the total circulation for the year as 50,883 copies. The Society is also aiding financially two groups of translation workers—one in Bolivia and the other in Peru. The Gospels of Mark and Luke for the Aymara and Quechua Indians are done, and the Gospel of Matthew almost completed.

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# Samples from the South Atlantic Agency

By the Rev. M. B. Porter, Agency Secretary

**H**ERE is a very busy man,\* but not so busy as to neglect the Bible work. The following excerpts from his letters tell of the fine work he and his colleagues are doing:

"Orders have been pouring in from all over our territory, and by the time I get these filled we will be practically out of the Gospels. I sent out an order Saturday for 5,000 for the mountain schools, which open this week, and this, I feel sure, is but the beginning of a greater work. I had intended ordering another large supply, but waited, feeling that these would be supplied by friends just as others have been. If we only abide in Him, then every need will be met as it arises.

"It often happens that after the Gospel of John is studied and an examination passed on it, for which we give a Testament, the teachers will write that the children have gotten so interested they want to take up the study of another book. Therefore, I would like for you to include other books in my next order.

"I have spent nearly every evening for two weeks in a little mission, in the cotton-mill district among the poorest of the poor, distributing tracts and Gospels, and quite a number have taken up the study of John to get a Testament. Most of these people know nothing but poverty and sin. May we pray that God will cause his truth to transform their lives.

"Well, Christmas was on me before I knew it; and for a long time before Christmas we were so busy at the office during the day, that I could give little time to sending out the Gospels and Testaments to the teachers. This

necessitated my working far into the night, but I do thank the Lord for every opportunity for getting the Word into the hands of the people. For it does satisfy the longing, hungry soul.

"I wish to thank you for the copy of the *Annual Report* received some days ago. It is the first report I have seen, and it is intensely interesting. I count it a rare privilege to be affiliated, even in the smallest way, with such work. I like "Our Unfinished Task" also, and I am mailing these to friends whom I think will be interested. I am deeply pleased to see the enlargement of your catalogue, the reduction in price, and particularly glad to see listed the other books of the New Testament at a penny. I praise God for the vision of the officers of the American Bible Society."

## 700 Conversions

A brief but gripping report from Mr. Dick Begbie, who finds time to associate Bible dis-



MR. BEGBIE AT HIS BUSINESS STAND

"He uses his business as an opportunity to distribute Gospels, and speak personally to those who patronize his orange drinks. On Sundays he preaches on the city streets, and in tourists' camps. His one passion seems to be a passion for souls." He was converted at Buffalo, N. Y., in a Billy Sunday meeting.

\*Inquiry has brought from Mr. Porter further word about this man: "He holds an important position in a large department store in Atlanta, but out of business hours he does an unlimited amount of work in Bible distribution. He heard me speak on the Bible Society and its work two years ago and became intensely interested, especially in relation to the moral work. He set about to interest others, and soon had a group of like-minded persons associated with himself, giving voluntary service. They are one of the long arms of our Agency by which we reach many needy sections and touch thousands of lives with the influence of God's Word. He is very modest and would prefer to give God the glory rather than name himself."



tribution with his everyday duties is next. He writes:

"I have nothing new to tell about my work. I just keep on giving out the Gospels which are issued by the American Bible Society. He has promised rewards for our labors, and I believe it and see it daily. I preach on the streets at night and in the tourists' camps on Sunday. The Lord has been good to me this year. I have been instrumental in leading more than seven hundred persons to Christ (not a bad year's work?). Most all hand-picked, personal work. I get them to reading God's Word; then the rest is easy. I could write a couple of hours about the ones who have been led to Christ here at this stand, from the king of bootleggers to presidents of banks. So you see, God is playing no favorites. Continue to pray for me that I may be used of him for the salvation of souls. I never could have done my work without the Gospel of John and the prayers of the Christian people."

#### 500 Bibles for Special Use of Tourists

Another business man writes:

"I am an insurance man, going in and out among the people. I always try to find out something of the inside life of my patrons. When it is possible, I talk to them about their soul's salvation. I find many in need of readable Bibles. I also find many among the foreign-speaking people who want Bibles in their own languages. I now enclose check for six Greek and two Polish Bibles. Ours is the oldest city in the United States, and the population is constantly changing,—so many tourists. As many people going away on a trip leave their Bibles at home, a band of loyal men and women have decided that they would place Bibles in some of the hotels and camps. Will you send us 500 No. 53's for this purpose? We cannot pay for them all at once, but will settle in full in about three months. We thank you for the ten per cent discount on what was already a remarkably low price."

#### Through Mud Up to the Hub

A minister, living in the mountains in his fight against tuberculosis, has started a school, and established a church. He writes:

"By reading the Gospel of John I was converted, and after my conversion I fully made up my mind to go into the ministry. On account of poor health, I was denied the privilege of the foreign field; so for the first four years of my ministry I chose mountain work. I wanted to get at least a taste of sacrifice, and to take my turn in the hard places. There is no greater hardship than work in the real back country. It is a strain that tells on the system and even

shortens lives. My field covered 65 miles on roads with mud at times up to the hubs of the rickety old buggy in which I traveled. After much work and prayer the church was completed, and then the lovely Bibles for it were sent by the Bible Society. It was a day of rejoicing for all. There are adult people coming to this church who never set foot inside of a church building before. The most striking thing about these people is extreme poverty, pitifully crowded and huddled living conditions. They have few gospel privileges, but appreciate every effort that is being made for them. School advantages are few, and the wonder is that they are even as civilized as they are. We are trying to teach them how to raise produce of all sorts for the market, how to make clothes and to take care of little children. It's a great work, and we ask your prayers and support."

#### The Transforming Power of the Word

Another worker writes:

"I am chaplain for a convict camp, and for

He was a  
cripple in a  
reform school,  
converted  
by a copy  
of the  
Scriptures.  
From this  
hospital  
in which he  
is now,  
he will go  
out to be  
a useful  
citizen.



more than three years I have held services every Sunday afternoon. I am wondering if the Bible Society will send me another supply of Testaments for this work. I like for each man to take a Testament home with him; therefore the need is continuous. They get in the habit of reading while in camp, and many of them keep it up, and it works wonders in their lives. As soon as they are interested in reading God's Word, immediately there is a marked change in their behavior. I don't know what mission workers would do without the loyal support of the Bible Society."



# Special Campaigns in the Northwestern Agency

By the Rev. J. L. McLaughlin, D.D., Agency Secretary

## Universal Bible Sunday

FOR the first time, in 1926 we made a special effort to utilize this anniversary in a much larger way. This was especially pertinent as the theme "The Voice and the Book" lent itself to this effort. We sent out ten thousand post cards, multigraphed, to pastors, calling attention to the day, and asked them to cooperate in a wide circulation of the Gospel of John for that day. We suggested that the penny Gospels be secured and placed in the pews for the responsive reading, using the first chapter for the morning lesson; then that each reader be asked to take his or her copy along with them and either keep it as a personal memento of the service, or what would be much better, to give it to someone who needed it. As a result of this circularization we received a total of over 250 orders, amounting to almost 100,000 copies of the Gospel; many of these from pastors who never before had had direct dealings with the Agency.

This is the day of mass production and of mass consumption in all lines of life. The newspapers have acquired an importance never before even approximated. As a part of the Bible Sunday propaganda in the city of Chicago especially and throughout the Agency, we sought newspaper publicity for the day and newspaper publishing of excerpts from the Scriptures. Editorials were prepared and sent to the press, and the same were given wide mention, not a few papers publishing the excerpts as requested. In the city of Chicago there are 143 foreign-language papers published regularly. We selected sixty-five of the principal ones, and a representative of the Society visited each one and sought access to the columns of the papers for mention of Bible Sunday and the importance of the Bible in the life of the nation and the lives of the individuals. In seven of these offices we met distinct rebuffs, being requested in no uncertain terms (and in one or two places in very decided terms) to take ourselves away. In twelve we met lukewarm acquiescence, and in twenty-three we were graciously welcomed and our material given prominent places in the columns of the periodicals. We have since realized that their publicity has been a very decided help to our work of circulating the Scriptures.

## The Simultaneous Bible Reading Revival

This plan was formulated and fostered by the Commission on Evangelism of the Federal

Council of Churches, calling for the reading of a chapter a day in the Gospel of Luke for January, and a chapter a day in the Book of Acts for February of 1927. We had known incidentally of it, but did not undertake special promotional work for it till it was almost too late. However, on December 20th we mailed 8,000 circular letters and 2,000 post cards to as many ministers throughout the area covered by the Northwestern Agency. Lack of means prohibited our sending to the other seven or eight thousand ministers within the bounds of the Agency. Three weeks later we sent out 8,000 follow-up post cards.

This circular letter contained a personal letter to the pastor explaining the program and urging him to get his people to unite in the



The truck carries only a part of one day's parcel post packages of one-cent portions sent out by the Northwestern Agency in December, 1926

same; it called attention to the fact that many would use their own Bibles and Testaments for the reading, but advised securing the penny books as being especially adapted to the plan. We included a sample copy of the Book of Luke, also a list of readings, and an order sheet.

Orders began to pour in, till at writing we have received responses from about 3,500 of those to whom the letters were sent. Orders for the penny portions almost all being those for Gospels of Luke and for the Book of Acts, total over 425,000.

From all over the territory we are receiving letters telling of the good results of this reading. Many of the pastors write that they never before knew anything of our Chicago depository, and are sending substantial orders for Testaments and for Bibles.



Many of the churches undertaking this Bible reading have gone beyond their own memberships and have circulated the penny books in their neighborhoods as a missionary work.

One pastor wrote that, as a result, at least half a dozen family altars had been set up in his congregation. He said he presented the matter at a morning service, and nearly every member promised to do the reading. In these families the parents and the children all began to read, and the natural thing was to read together. Then the prayer part was inevitable; and, lo, once having started the family devotions, they plan to keep it up, and a family altar results.

### Done in Chicago Itself

A prominent business man here in the city of Chicago reports that about once a week, as he comes into the city for his day's work, he leaves his train at one of the inside city stations and walks the rest of the way. He carries a pocket full of the penny Gospels and distributes them along the way, selling where sales can be made, but giving freely where he can arouse interest in the books, but not sufficient for the making of a sale. He says, "It does

more to keep my own religious life up to a keen edge than going to church on Sundays."

Another man, employed in one of the big business concerns, has been faithfully following the program of having Gospel portions in his pockets on all occasions; and during the year the total of his sales has been large. One day, noting a couple of colored boys reading from a New Testament, he stopped to inquire the cause of their interest and was met with a broad grin of recognition, and one of the little fellows said, "Don' yu know me, Mister? You shuh give me a Gospel last week, an' after readin' it thru, I went and buyed this New Testament. Never saw one befo'." Who says that seed sowing does not bring returns?

One prominent Chicago pastor has a standing offer to his Sunday school that, if any member ever finds him without a copy of the New Testament in his pocket, he will forfeit to the inquirer five dollars. He reports an almost utter inability to go along the streets, since every boy and girl are hailing him, "Hey, Doctor —, have you got your Testament?" He says he thinks he will have to wear his Testament suspended in plain sight.

• • •

## Notes and Comments

EDITORS of religious papers and ministers who prepare church calendars may be interested to know that the Publicity Department of the American Bible Society can supply them with cuts that are distinctive, original, and interesting. They come from the twenty-two Agencies of the Society at home and abroad and depict existing conditions under which the Society operates in its world-wide distribution of the Scriptures. There are also cuts of a general nature. These cuts are loaned without charge. To those having special subjects in mind, proofs of various cuts will be submitted for choice. Application should be made to the Rev. Arthur C. Ryan, General Secretary, Bible House, Astor Place, New York City.

• •

A WILL probated in January 1845,—eighty-one years ago—has recently been executed completely. The American Bible Society received a bequest of \$1,083.51 from the estate of Mr. Churchill Houston in 1926. The legacy was left subject to the life estate of the testator's wife and to certain other conditions. His wife died in 1902, and the final survivor in the estate in 1926. The estate has thus run for eighty-one years, which is the longest record

in the experience and knowledge of the American Bible Society.

• •

THE daughter of a former President of the American Bible Society, William H. Allen, LL.D., tells an interesting incident about him when president of Girard College:

I know that my father was greatly interested in the Bible Society. I think he *read* the Bible more beautifully than anyone I have ever heard, for he loved it, both as Holy Scripture, and as exquisite literature! I have often heard him tell the story how, when a Catholic boy at Girard College objected to the reading of the Bible, he replied that the Bible contained the *highest code of morals* that the world has ever seen, and as such it was a textbook of the college. There was no more trouble!

• •

THE accompanying message from Bishop W. A. Candler, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, is very deeply appreciated:

Of all the Christian organizations to which the evangelical churches of America are related I regard the American Bible Society as foremost and the most important. Hence I seize every opportunity to commend its work.

I am glad to know that the observance of Bible Sunday this year proved to be so successful. Surely, if the Christian people of our country appreciated



fully the work of the Bible Society, they would pour millions into its treasury with joy and promptness.

THE brief note in our October RECORD telling of a donor's inaugurating his checkbook by drawing the first check as a donation to the American Bible Society stimulated one at least. A check for \$25 was received from another donor accompanied by this paragraph clipped from the RECORD and the brief comment, "Here is another first check."

THE missionary statesman, and Nestor of foreign mission secretaries, the Rev. Dr. James L. Barton, has sent us this gracious message:

I want to express my great appreciation of the copy of the 110th Annual Report of the American Bible Society which has just come to my desk. As I have turned its pages I see that the book is filled with most valuable information and constitutes a volume which one would naturally keep at his right hand for reference. It is a thrilling story of a notable service rendered to the Kingdom and to Christ.

THE broadcasting of a passage of Scripture six days a week at 1:30 p. m. from the Radio Station of Gimbel Brothers, New York, is to be continued, by action of the Board. Those in charge of the station not only desire it themselves, but report that indications come from various sections of the country, of the interest and benefit resulting from these readings. If any of our readers "listen in" their comments will be welcomed.

BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD

EDITORS .....*The Secretaries*

NEW YORK, MARCH, 1927

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

Bible House, Astor Place, New York

THE American Bible Society was instituted in 1816 with the sole object of encouraging wider circulation of the Holy Scriptures, without note or comment.

Its program is world-wide and includes the translation of the Scriptures into the languages and common dialects of the people; the publication of the Scriptures in styles suitable and convenient, and at the lowest possible cost; the distribution of the Scriptures throughout the world at cost or free, as a missionary program.

Membership in the Society consists of three classes, each with its special privileges:

AN appreciative annuitant writes from Jubulpore, India:

I have to thank you for so promptly carrying out the matter, and for postdating the bond. While you will appreciate to a considerable extent what it means to have a bit of an anchor against the possible storms of old age, I doubt if you can fully realize what such means to one who has been on the foreign field for all his best years. One gets to feel so very much out of things at home.

THIS touching message came from West Virginia:

I was paralyzed last year and promised five hundred dollars to help print Bibles. I am still living and will send you my check and save administratrix commission. I hope some may read and find God, who might never have known him. Success to your work.

OUR readers may have seen the following in the *New York Times* of November 4, under the caption "Bible is Used as Evidence in Jerusalem Land Dispute."

JERUSALEM, Nov. 3.—The Bible was produced as evidence in a land dispute on Monday between the Government and Moslem religious organizations. An official of the Land Department quoted Genesis in substantiation of the Government's claim to ownership of property near Rachel's Tomb.

The British judge agreed to enter as evidence chapter 35, verses 16 to 20, defining the location of Bethlehem.

MR. FRED STONE was a recent contributor of \$200 to the work of the American Bible Society.

1. Annual Members are constituted by an annual subscription of \$5.00.

2. Life Members are constituted by a subscription of \$50.00 at one time.

3. Life Directors are constituted by a subscription of \$150.00 in one or two payments.
- Handsome engraved certificates are presented to Life Directors and Life Members.
- Full information about the privileges of Membership will be sent on application.
- The Society is supported by the gifts of its members and friends and by the contributions of Christian churches with which the Society has official or semi-official relations.

FEBRUARY MEETING OF THE BOARD

THE tenth stated meeting of the Board of Managers of the American Bible Society in its one hundred and eleventh year was held at the Bible House, Astor Place, New York, on Thursday, February 3, 1927, at 3:30 o'clock p. m., President E. Francis Hyde in the chair.

Devotional exercises were conducted by the Recording Secretary.



The minutes of the ninth stated meeting of the Board of Managers were presented and approved.

On behalf of the committee appointed, General Secretary Haven read the following memorial minute on the Rev. Dr. Junius B. Remensnyder, which was thereafter adopted by a rising vote:

The Rev. Dr. Junius B. Remensnyder, for twenty years a member of the American Bible Society's Committee on Versions, and one of the outstanding ministers of the Lutheran Church, died at his home, 1160 Fifth Avenue, New York, on January 2, 1927. His funeral was held at St. James' Lutheran Church, Madison Avenue and 73d Street, of which he was pastor emeritus, on Wednesday, January 5th. The American Bible Society was represented at the funeral by its President, Mr. E. Francis Hyde, and its General Secretary, Rev. William I. Haven, D.D., LL.D.

Dr. Remensnyder retired as pastor of St. James' Church, December 30, 1923, after forty-two years in the pastorate of that church and fifty-eight years in the ministry. Dr. Remensnyder was born in Staunton, Va., and was within a few weeks of eighty-five years of age at the time of his death. He was one of the best known Lutheran ministers in America. He graduated from Pennsylvania College, and in theology from the Theological Seminary of the Lutheran Church at Gettysburg, Pa. As a student in the seminary he was in the company that gathered in the grounds chosen for the National Cemetery on the occasion of the world-famous dedicatory address delivered by Abraham Lincoln. He has often described his recollection of that occasion, which was indelibly impressed upon his memory. When the Civil War started, Dr. Remensnyder postponed his studies and enlisted in the 131st Pennsylvania Volunteers. After the war he returned to the seminary, from which he graduated in 1865, during which year he entered the ministry and had a church in Lewistown, Pa., from 1865 to 1867, in Philadelphia from 1867 to 1874, and in Savannah, Ga., from 1874 to 1880.

During his ministry in Savannah, the Church of the Ascension, one of the largest Southern Lutheran churches, was built.

His interest in the union of the Lutheran churches was manifested while he was in Georgia in his resolution presented to the Southern Lutheran General Synod, from which resulted one common service book and hymnal for all English-speaking Lutherans in America.

In 1881 Dr. Remensnyder came to New York to become the pastor of the oldest and leading English Lutheran church, St. James', founded in 1827. The present edifice of this church was built in the early part of Dr. Remensnyder's ministry.

Dr. Remensnyder was much beloved in all sorts of church circles. He was at one time president of the General Synod of his church. He was for many years president of Sigma Chi, an interdenominational clerical circle founded by Dr. Howard Crosby. He was an earnest defender of the faith. He loved the Lutheran doctrines and never hesitated advocating them in any company anywhere, but always with such an irenic spirit that he was all the more beloved for his devotion to the great doctrines of his church.

He wrote many books, among them "Heavenward," "The Bible and Future Life," "The Work and Personality of Luther," "Mysticism," "The Atonement and Modern Thought." Among the last of them published was the one entitled "Light on the Shadows

of Life." He was an incessant writer for the religious and secular magazines, and his pulpit utterances were often quoted in the press of the metropolis and other cities.

He was deeply interested in the American Bible Society. His service to the Committee on Versions, where his wide learning and kindly judgments were a valuable contribution, was given with heartiness and enthusiasm. He quite regularly attended the meetings of the Board of Managers, and everywhere he helped to promote the interests of the Society. His pure, gentle spirit devoted to our common Lord and Saviour deeply impressed his fellow members of the committees and the Board, and the Society desires to put on record its deep sense of bereavement in his loss and its gratitude to the Heavenly Father for his fellowship and service.

The death, on January 30, 1927, of the Hon. Simeon E. Baldwin, a Vice-President of the American Bible Society, was reported, and the President was requested to appoint a committee to prepare a memorial minute.

The minutes of the various standing committees were presented and approved.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Foreign Agencies, the Rev. Robert H. Milligan, D.D., was appointed Secretary of the Upper Andes Agency.

The Treasurer reported that, in connection with the campaign for the reading of a chapter a day in the Gospel of St. Luke in January and in the Acts of the Apostles in February, one-half million of each of these in the one-cent form had already been called for and supplied.

An oil portrait of Thomas Whittaker, a former member of the Board of Managers, and long proprietor of a bookstore in the Bible House at the northwest corner of the street floor, was presented on behalf of members of the family by Treasurer Darlington and accepted with the thanks of the Board.

The Recording Secretary reported on the meeting held under the auspices of the Historical Society of Hudson County, New Jersey, at which special honor was given to the founders of Jersey City, among whom Col. Richard Varick, the first Treasurer and third President of the American Bible Society, had been a leader.

The Treasurer reported the following consignments to the Society's Foreign Agencies during the month of January, 1927: Brazil, 740 volumes, valued at \$704.18; Caribbean, 935 volumes, valued at \$783.31; La Plata, 7,373 volumes, valued at \$2,119.49; Mexico, 2,392 volumes, valued at \$2,320.95; Upper Andes, 130 volumes, valued at \$156.07; West Indies, 2,933 volumes, valued at \$1,024; total volumes, 14,554; total value, \$7,108.

The issues from the Bible House during the month of January were 756,464 volumes.

The meeting was adjourned.



# CASH RECEIPTS IN JANUARY, 1927

## LEGACIES

Ellis, Amaziah, late of Blissfield, Mich. ....	\$ 100 00
Kimball, Jeremiah, late of Duluth, Minn. ....	50 00
Munns, George C., late of Oxford, Ohio ....	444 96
Nies, Rev. H. E., late of Paterson, N. J. ....	500 00
Walker, Mary C., late of New York, N. Y. ....	10,000 00
Warner, Anna B., late of Phillipstown, N. Y. ....	11 85
	<u>\$11,106 81</u>

Pike Grove, Wis...\$24 25	
Rome Welsh, N. Y....	\$ 6 60
St. Louis, Mo.....	5 14
Sharon, Conn. ....	42 25
Sharon and Linn Grove, Iowa ....	45 00
Stephenson Co., Ill. ....	2 70
Utica and Vicinity Welsh, N. Y. ....	17 32
	<u>\$2,183 42</u>
Received on Dona- tion Account.....	339 20
	<u>\$2,522 62</u>

## RECAPITULATION

Legacies .....	\$11,106 81
Gifts Subject to Life In- terest .....	43,244 77
Auxiliary Societies, on Donation Account.....	339 20
Auxiliary Societies, on Book Account .....	2,183 42
Home Agencies .....	33,802 49
Returns from Scriptures Donated .....	538 35
	<u>\$91,215 04</u>

## GIFTS SUBJECT TO LIFE INTEREST

Amount received during the month .....	\$43,244 77
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## AUXILIARY SOCIETIES

Received on Donation Book Account Account	
Alabama .....	\$ 47 70
Albany Co., N. Y....	27 79
Buffalo City and Erie Co., N. Y. ....	500 00
Charleston, S. C. ....	107 01
Columbia Co., N. Y..	90 09
Connecticut .....	96 77
Fayette Co., Ind....	\$50 00
First Welsh B. S., Vicinity of Osh- kosh, Wis. ....	50 00
Haddam, Conn. ....	125 00
Kanawha Co., W. Va.	5 27
Long Island, N. Y..	31 99
Massachusetts .....	966 32
New Hampshire ....	87 92
New York .....	193 50

## HOME AGENCIES

Atlantic .....	\$ 6,151 77
Central .....	3,304 03
Colored People of U. S. A.	2,233 45
Eastern .....	3,118 26
National Capital .....	701 02
Northwestern .....	6,000 03
Pacific .....	4,679 42
South Atlantic.....	3,004 43
Southwestern .....	2,404 16
Western .....	2,205 92
	<u>\$33,802 49</u>

## RETURNS FROM SCRIPTURES DONATED

Board of National Missions Presbyterian Church ....	\$ 39 73
London Missionary Society, South Wales .....	483 87
J. & J. Perkins, Liberia....	10 00
Rev. J. P. Wragg—Agency Colored People U. S. A....	2 50
Sheldon Jackson School, Alaska .....	2 25
	<u>\$538 35</u>

## MISCELLANEOUS

Annuity Account Invested \$	221 50
Annuity Department.....	286 68
Bible House Rentals....	11,396 44
Bible Society Record...	17 00
Diffusion of Information..	3 75
General Salaries and Ex- penses .....	2 75
Gifts for Distribution to the Blind .....	130 57
Gifts from Churches....	12,478 13
Gifts from Individuals...	12,092 26
Income from Available Investments .....	174 25
Income from Legacies and Gifts, Trust Funds ..	928 11
Manufacturing Credits ..	48 09
Maryland Bible Society for Pekin Bible House..	5,000 00
Scriptures to the Blind...	135 85
The Trade .....	1,624 59
Trust Funds Subject to Life Interest.....	2,784 00
	<u>\$ 47,323 97</u>
Total Cash Receipts...	<u>\$138,539 01</u>

# CASH STATEMENT FOR JANUARY, 1927

## GENERAL CASH STATEMENT

### RECEIPTS

Balance from December, 1926.....	\$ 5,591 80
Gifts from Auxiliaries .....	339 20
Auxiliaries .....	2,183 42
Trade .....	1,624 59
Scriptures to the Blind.....	135 85
Manufacturing Credits .....	48 09
Annuity Account .....	43,244 77
Bible House Rentals....	11,396 44
Gifts for Distribution to Blind.....	130 57
Gifts from Churches....	12,478 13
Gifts from Individuals .....	12,092 26
Bible Society Record.....	17 00
Maryland Bible Society.....	5,000 00
Trust Funds Subject to Life Interest.....	2,784 00
Annuity Account Invested.....	221 50
Home Agencies .....	33,802 49
General—Salaries and Expenses.....	2 75
Diffusion of Information.....	3 75
Income from Legacies and Gifts—Trust Funds .....	928 11
Annuity Department .....	286 68
Incomes from Available Investment.....	174 25
Legacies .....	11,106 81
Returns from Scriptures Donated.....	538 35
Suspense .....	200 00
	<u>\$144,330 81</u>

### DISBURSEMENTS

Bills of Exchange .....	\$24,207 66
General Salaries and Expenses.....	4,647 90
Treasurer's Office—Salaries and Expenses..	1,729 02
Bible House Expenses.....	4,812 63
Appeals .....	636 45
Diffusion of Information.....	1,621 90
Annuity Department .....	14,018 22
Bible Society Record.....	209 61
Cash reserved for Publication Department..	11,000 00
Home Agencies .....	12,664 15
Foreign Agencies .....	5,150 96
United States Trust Co.—Annuity Account..	30,000 00
Legacies—Refund .....	5 93
Blind Fund .....	22 63
Special Annuity Income and Expense.....	57 50
Miscellaneous Home .....	189 77
Miscellaneous Foreign .....	243 11
Legacy Expenses .....	138 00
Broadcasting .....	40 00
Income from Legacies and Gifts—Trust Funds	20 04
Balance to February 1.....	32,915 33

\$144,330 81

## PUBLICATION DEPARTMENT CASH STATEMENT

Balance from December 31, 1926.....	\$15,234 70	Publication Department .....	\$13,845 54
Transferred from General Cash.....	11,000 00	Balance to February 1.....	12,389 16
	<u>\$26,234 70</u>		<u>\$26,234 70</u>

Total Cash Balance.....\$45,304 49



For the Lenten Season

# A SELF-PRONOUNCING POCKET SIZE TEXT BIBLE

## Points to Consider

1. Convenient size, measuring  $4\frac{1}{8} \times 6\frac{3}{4}$  inches, and *only three quarters of an inch thick*. India paper.
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## SPECIMEN OF TYPE

### ST. MATTHEW 4, 5

*Christ beginneth to preach*

12 ¶ Now when Jesus had heard that John was cast into prison, he departed into Galilee;

13 And leaving Nazareth, he came and dwelt in Că-pēr'-nă-üm, which is upon the sea coast, in the borders of Ză-bŭ'-lon and Nēph'-thā-lim:

14 That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by E-săi'-ās the prophet, saying,

15 The land of Ză-bŭ'-lon, and

25 And there followed him great multitudes of people from Galilee, and from Dē-căp'-ô-lis, and from Jerusalem, and from Judæa, and from beyond Jordan.

### CHAPTER 5 [934

AND seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him:

2 And he opened his mouth, and

## Bindings

CB47X Leather, divinity circuit, red under gold edge. ....\$2 50\*

CB49X Morocco, divinity circuit, leather lined, red under gold edge..... 3 45\*

\*Carriage extra, mailing weight 1 lb.

## AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

Bible House - Astor Place - New York

## AGENCIES

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WASHINGTON: 716 Woodward Building  
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CINCINNATI: 424 Elm Street

CHICAGO: 35 East Wacker Drive  
DALLAS: 905 Main Street  
DENVER: 1515 Larimer Street  
SAN FRANCISCO: 250 Golden Gate Avenue

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Room 312, Bible House, Astor Place, New York

